



ELK GROVE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Fire ■ Emergency Medical Services ■ Parks & Recreation

FIRE DEPARTMENT

8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 2, Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 685-9502 ■ (916) 685-6622 fax ■ www.egcsd.ca.gov

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kristyn Staby
Public Information Officer
(916) 719-2971 (cell)
kristynstaby@egcsd.ca.gov

For Immediate Release: March 3, 2004

Elk Grove CSD Fire Department News Release: FINDINGS RELEASED IN CAMDEN AREA HOUSE FIRE

Date/Time of Incident: Sunday, February 29, 2004, 1458 hrs.

Type of Emergency: Structure Fire

Location: 8639 Wilmot Court

Incident Number: 022790

Elk Grove, CA – The Elk Grove Community Services District's (CSD) Fire Investigation Unit released today their preliminary findings from Sunday's structure fire in Camden that displaced a family of four. Arson has been ruled out in the incident, although the exact cause remains undetermined.

Evidence and information collected at the scene have led Elk Grove fire investigators to conclude that the fire was not started intentionally. Investigators from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, who were called in by the Fire Department to assist in an advisory and precautionary basis, have corroborated the Department's findings in the case.

"The fire's point of origin was isolated to the family room, however our investigators are neither able to directly attribute nor rule out an electrical malfunction as the cause," said Elk Grove Fire Chief Keith Grueneberg. The Fire Department's findings will be turned over to the insurance company for any further action.

There were no injuries in Sunday's fire – no one was home at the time of the incident. Damage to the property, however, was extensive and the building is no longer inhabitable. Friends have provided shelter and other means of support for the displaced family thus far. Donations to support their fire recovery are being accepted by the Greater Faith Church of Sacramento. For donation inquiries, contact the church at (916) 392-9692.

With this incident in mind, fire officials point out that, sadly, fires can happen to anyone at anytime. Protect yourself and your loved ones by following the safety tips below as recommended by the National Fire Protection Association:

Install smoke detectors: Install and/or maintain smoke detectors on every level of your home. Make sure that one is located nearest sleeping quarters. If you are hearing impaired, use tested and approved detectors that have a louder alarm or those that trigger a strobe light. Test your

ELK GROVE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

"Your Independent Local Government Agency Providing Parks, Recreation, Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services"

detectors once a month and change the batteries once a year. If you need assistance with checking your detectors or replacing their batteries, contact your local fire station.

Know two ways out: Plan two escape routes from every room in your home and practice using them. Make sure exits are not blocked by furniture or other items that might prevent your escape.

Replace or repair loose or frayed cord on all electrical devices. Avoid running cords across doorways or under carpets and avoid overloading outlets.

Test Arc Fault Interrupters (AFCI) and Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) after installation and once a month to make sure they are working properly. AFCIs and GFCIs should only be installed by a qualified technician. Have faulty interrupters replaced immediately.

#

#

#